

NH Bureau of EMS-Bulletin

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Message from the Bureau Chief

As you are aware there are substantial changes to the **levels of EMS Provider** on the national level. The EMS leadership in NH has chosen to adopt these levels. After a conversion process that we are currently working on:

- First Responders** will become **Emergency Medical Responders**
- EMT-Basics** will become **EMT's**
- EMT-Intermediates** will become **Advanced EMT's**
- EMT-Paramedics** will become **Paramedics**

The biggest challenge facing us is converting EMT-I's to AEMT's. This will require a conversion course/module, an evaluation of new practical skills and - for this level only – successful completion of the National Registry of EMT's **computer-based cognitive exam** for the AEMT level. There are roughly two refresher cycles for current EMT-I's to complete the process. EMT-I's whose license recently expired in March 2011 must complete the process by March 2015, those whose license expires in March 2012 must complete the process by March 2016.

The NH Bureau of EMS is looking for individuals to serve on an **EMT-I Conversion Task Force** to determine strategies to mitigate the impact of the EMT-I to AEMT conversion process. If you are interested in volunteering for this task force, please contact me at clay.odell@dos.nh.gov.

-Clay Odell, Bureau Chief of the NH Bureau of EMS

Education Section

2011 EMT-INTERMEDIATE TRANSITION PROGRAM

The skills of administering Glucagon, Nitroglycerin, and Nitrous Oxide have been added to the scope of practice for the EMT-Intermediate. The 2011 EMT-Intermediate Transition Program covers these skills and has been rolled-out to the I/Cs. There is one additional I/C training session available on 9/26/2011 at 9AM in Concord. EMT-Intermediates licensing after October 1, 2011 will need complete the 2011 EMT-I Transition to become licensed. If you need to take the 2011 EMT-Intermediate Transition, check the [Course & Exam Schedule](#) for a list of authorized programs.

REFRESHER PROCESS Q&A

With the recent change to the practical exam skills assessment and removal of the practical examination, the NH Bureau of EMS has partnered with the EMS Instructor Cabinet to host Refresher Process Q&A sessions in each EMS Region. Four of the EMS Regions have

held their sessions and the last session will be conducted at SOLO in Conway, October 5th at 7:00pm.

INSTRUCTOR/COORDINATOR RESOURCES

Three new I/C resources have been created to assist I/Cs with implementing the new refresher process. The resources can be found on the Division [website](#) in the "Training, Education and Practical Exams" section of the Documents & Forms page. They all start with "I/C Resource:". Or they can be found in the I/C resource section of [NHOODLE](#). These resources are:

- Course Authorization Guide [\[link\]](#)
- Equipment Borrowing Guide (BLS & ALS) [\[link\]](#)
- Equipment & Personnel Guide [\[link\]](#) (for the skills assessments in option 1 of the [RTP Skills Assessment Plan](#).)

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Research & Quality Management

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

The NH EMS Quality Management, Documentation and Data Advisory Committee will have its first meeting in September. Meetings will occur monthly and will review all elements of the NH EMS Incident Report. The appointed committee member list will be posted on the Bureau website shortly. Please contact the members representing your type of service or Bureau TEMSIS staff if you have areas of concern around what is contained in the NH EMS Incident Report, or standards for completion of an EMSIR elements.

DOCUMENTATION OF AIR MEDICAL TRANSPORTS

We have established a standardized way for documenting a patient transferred to Air Medical Transport.

When you transfer patient care to any Air Medical Transport service, please document in the following manner:

Complete your whole EMS Incident report as usual and:

Under Treatment and Transport Disposition: Treated at BLS/ALS and Transported

Under Destination>Destination Type: Other EMS Responder (Air)

Under Destination>Destination Name: LANDING ZONE: SERVICE (Choose the actual service that flew the patient)

Advanced Life Support

INTEFACILITY TRANSPORT PROTOCOL 7.0

The Interfacility Transport protocol prerequisite for paramedic and critical care transfer went into effect September 1, 2011. To date we have 26 EMS Units meeting the PIIFT prerequisite and one Unit meeting the Critical Care prerequisite. Vicki Blanchard will be scheduling appointments for site visits to audit the educational components and assist in the quality management programs.

PROTOCOLS

The protocol committee did not meet in August. They will resume the protocol review process at their September meeting. All EMS providers are welcome to participate in the process. For further information contact vicki.blanchard@dos.nh.gov.

The Extended Care Protocols Committee met in August. Proposed protocols were divided up and a format was created to incorporate into the current protocols. Some protocols should be ready for review at the November Medical Control Board meeting.

STROKE & STEMI SYSTEMS

A committee has been formed to assist Vicki in organizing and planning a Stroke/STEMI System summit meeting. The summit will focus on point-of-entry plans for stroke and STEMI patients. The summit is being planned for Spring 2012.

Trauma & Emergency Preparedness



The NH Bureau of EMS is pleased to welcome **Angela Shepard, MD** as our new Trauma Coordinator.

Catholic Medical Center was recently approved as a Level III Adult Trauma Hospital and a Level IV Pediatric Trauma Hospital. **Congratulations to CMC!**

Bill Wood, Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for the Bureau covered the state EOC during Hurricane Irene. He reported no major incidents involving EMS.

Field Services

FIRST RESPONDER RELICENSEURE

First Responders whose license will be expiring in 2011 will need to submit their completed applications for licensure by 9/30/11. The packets reminding each of them of this process, including an application form, was sent the third week of August. There are just over 100 First Responder level Provides that need to re-license this year per the licensing database.

ANNUAL EMS AWARDS

The Annual NH EMS Awards along with the Committee of Merit Fire Awards, will be presented on Wednesday night, September 28, 2011. The ceremony will be held at the Richard M. Flynn Fire Academy in Concord at 6:30 PM and all are welcome!

Please join us!!

We are very pleased to announce this year's award recipients:

-Mitchell/Connolly Achievement Award-
Mike Kennard, EMT-P – Frisbie Hospital

-Boundtree Unit of the Year Award-
Stewart's Ambulance Service, Inc.

-David A. Connor Memorial Appreciation Award-
Charles Hemeon, EMT-P - Derry FD

-EMS Educator of the Year-
Edward Gannon, EMT-P, NEEMSI

-David F. Dow Memorial Provider of the Year Award-
Keith Noble, EMT-I, Conway FD